

Answer to Math Question for May 15, 2012

What is the velocity of flow per second for a 6.0-in. diameter pipe, if it delivers 122 gpm? Assume the pipe is full.

d. 1.4 ft/sec

First, convert gpm to cubic feet per second (cfs).

$$\text{Number of cfs} = \frac{122 \text{ gpm}}{(7.48 \text{ gal/ft}^3)(60 \text{ sec/min})} = 0.2718 \text{ cfs}$$

Next, convert the diameter from inches to feet.

$$\text{Number of ft} = (6 \text{ in}) \left(\frac{1 \text{ ft}}{12 \text{ in}} \right) = 0.50 \text{ ft}$$

Equation:

$\text{Flow, cfs} = (\text{Area, ft}^2)(\text{Velocity, ft/sec}); \text{ where the Area} = (0.785)(\text{Diameter})^2$

$$0.2718 \text{ cfs} = (0.785)(0.50)^2(\text{Velocity, ft/sec})$$

Rearrange and solve for flow in ft/sec.

$$\text{Velocity, } \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec}} = \frac{(0.2718 \text{ cfs})}{(0.785)(0.5 \text{ ft})^2} = 1.38 \text{ cfs, round up to } \mathbf{1.4 \text{ ft/sec}}$$